

The Watchman and Southerner.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1880.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

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KEEPING WATCH ON THE MEXICANS

Close Scrutiny of Legislation Carranza is Reported to Have Asked For

MEXICO MAY NOT PAY HER DEBTS

Carranza Government Prepares to Wait and See What Other Nations Will Do.

Washington, May 4.—Financial legislation which President Carranza has asked the Mexican congress to consider at the extra session now being held is being watched closely by officials here. It was learned today. This is understood to be due to American interests being involved and to the recent statement of Louis Cabrera, secretary of finance in the Mexican cabinet, that Mexico would not pay its debts at present even if it had the money, preferring to await the results of the peace conference to see "what the world in general will do with its obligations, how many nations will repudiate their debts and how many will trim their obligations to figures compatible with their income."

Figures recently received from Mexico through official channels give the deficit for 1918, as announced by Cabrera, as 7,000,000 pesos, or about \$3,500,000. But an investigation of the Mexican financial situation by T. W. Osterheld, specialist and consulting expert in Mexican values for a prominent Wall Street firm, show that Cabrera, in making report of the deficit failed to take into account the following items, amounts being in pesos: National external bond interest for 1918, unpaid, 16,160,000; national internal bond interest for 1918, unpaid, 5,800,000; interest on unpaid national bond interest, 1,038,000; guaranteed railway bond interest, 20,789,000; interest on unpaid interest on preceding, 1,030,000, and bond guaranteed by government other than railway bonds, 3,275,000.

Other figures compiled recently by officials from authoritative sources show that the Mexican government received extraordinary revenue during 1918 by the sale of stock in the Hawaiian-American Steamship Line, 7,000,000 pesos, and the abrogation of the Tehantepec Railway concession, 12,000,000 pesos, which are classed as ordinary revenue in Cabrera's report.

In addition, the National Railways, which were confiscated by the Carranza government, yielded during the year 8,000,000 pesos; private industrial plants, mines, etc., confiscated, and not yet returned to the owners, gave another 8,000,000 pesos to the public treasury, and the Wells-Fargo and Mexican express companies contributed 12,000,000 pesos, one-half of the income of the companies.

No reports have been made on the operation of revenue of the Mexican railways, the tramways of Mexico City or the Mexican Telephone Company's properties since they were confiscated, but the official report of Cabrera includes all the amounts received from the various sources given above as parts of the normal incomes of the government.

It is said that if the confiscated properties had been restored to their owners the annual bond interest debts paid and the extraordinary revenue from the sale of the steamship stock and the abrogation of the railway concession eliminated, the real deficit for the year would have been approximately 96,000,000 pesos, or \$48,000,000.

Two British Admirals Government Broke All Precedents In Making Appointments

London, April 3 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—The British government disregarded all precedents and created unique situations when it elevated Lord Jellicoe and Sir David Beatty to be admirals of the fleet at the same time. Never had a man of Beatty's age—48 years—been so honored and never had two British admirals of the fleet flown the flag at the same time. In fact in the past 100 years only three admirals of the fleet had flown their flags at all.

It is a tradition in the British navy that if an officer is promoted to admiral of the fleet when on sea duty he is relieved as soon as practicable and never again is assigned to the sea. In this case Beatty's flag was hoisted for only the four days intervening between his appointment and the disbanding of the German fleet. Jellicoe had the distinction of spreading his flag to the breeze from the mast of the New Zealand, on which he is making a trip almost around the world.

One of the three other occasions in the last century when admirals of the British fleet have been at sea was when Sir Edward Seymour took the Inflexible to New York in 1909 for the tercentenary celebration.

Washington, May 3.—The labor supply and demand in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and throughout the South is reported on an equality with industrial activities, and with a growing demand for farm labor, conditions elsewhere show improvement.

DELEGATION TO COTTON MEETING

Probably 75 South Carolinians Have Given Notice of Intention of Going to New Orleans

PARTY ILL LEAVE COLUMBIA ON 11th

If Others Wish to Go Notify Central Committee by Next Friday.

Columbia, May 4.—Practically every member of the delegation of twenty, named by the cotton convention held here last month to represent South Carolina at the big cotton convention to be held in New Orleans on May 14, 15 and 16, has notified the central committee of the South Carolina Cotton Association of his intention of attending. In addition many other farmers, bankers and business men have signified their intention of going and have asked that reservations be made for them. It is believed that the party from South Carolina will number not less than seventy-five.

The central committee of the South Carolina Association has asked that all who wish to go notify them not later than Friday afternoon and reservation will be made for them.

The majority of the members of the South Carolina delegation will leave Columbia in a body next Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, going by Spartanburg. The party will arrive in New Orleans Tuesday night at 10:30 o'clock.

B. F. McLeod, J. T. Mackey, J. H. Claffy, R. M. Mixson, D. W. Watkins, J. H. Wannamaker and B. Harris, all of whom are members of important committees that meet preliminary to the big convention will leave Columbia Saturday. The convention proper will be held on May 14, 15 and 16. On May 12 the special committee on permanent organization will hold a meeting. On May 13 the committee on the big foreign exporting, financing and marketing corporation will hold a meeting.

The convention promises to be the largest ever held in the South. Letters received by the central committee of the South Carolina Cotton Association indicate that each State in the cotton belt will be represented by not less than twenty-five delegates. Governor W. P. G. Harding of the federal reserve board and many other prominent men will speak. Each State in the cotton belt has been asked to have a full and definite report ready for the convention on the percentage of acreage reduction. The South Carolina committee has sent a letter to every county chairman asking that he make a report from his county in order that the exact reduction in this State may be ascertained.

"We are confident," says a statement issued by Chairman Wannamaker today, "that these reports are going to show that the New York paper which placed the reduction in South Carolina at only 15.9 per cent was badly in error. If this paper was as badly off on every other State in the cotton belt as on South Carolina no dependence is to be placed in its report. We expect the reports which will be received at the New Orleans meeting to completely discount the New York acreage report."

Red Guards at Petrograd

Finnish Anarchists Using Russian City as a Base of Operations

London, May 5.—The Finnish Red Guards are now masters of the situation in Petrograd, according to a Copenhagen dispatch to The Mail. It is reported that they intend to march against the Finnish White Guards. Paris reports Saturday stated that Finnish forces had occupied Petrograd but the identity of the troops was then not established.

Vigilance Committee on Guard

Responsible Citizens of Argentina Adopt Measures to Put A Curb on Anarchists

Buenos Aires, Sunday, May 4.—The attempted anarchist demonstration was a flat failure as the result of the activities of the vigilance committees, which despite the announced suspension of anarchist plans for the manifestation, took up positions in all plazas to prevent informal gatherings.

Present Peace Terms

Treaty Will Be Handed Germans About Wednesday

Paris, May 3 (Havas).—Presenting peace terms to the Germans won't take place before Wednesday, according to present indications. Paris newspapers say important progress has been made in solving the problems remaining before the final shaping of the treaty.

ORLANDO COMING BACK TO PARIS

This Announcement Was Made Officially In Rome This Afternoon

NO INTIMATION THAT ITALY SURRENDERS

Italian Ambassador Designated To Attend Meeting of Executive Committee of League of Nations

Paris, May 5.—Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino leave Rome tonight for Paris, it was officially announced this afternoon. In the meantime it is announced that the Italian ambassador at London has been designated to participate for Italy in the meeting this afternoon of the executive committee of the league of nations.

REPORT STOLEN MACHINERY

List Turned in By Order of American Officers in Germany

ENTIRE PLANTS EQUIPPED FROM BELGIUM

Germans Claim They Purchased Belgian Property Through Regular Channels.

Coblenz, Friday, May 2 (By the Associated Press).—In compliance with the order issued by the American army of occupation commander, reports from individuals, corporations and municipalities of machinery and other property removed by the German army from France, Belgium, Italy and other allied countries since August, 1914, began to arrive at the headquarters of the United States third army today.

Lists from ten manufacturing districts in the American occupied area already have been received. One firm alone at Neu Wide eight miles northwest of Coblenz, itemized one hundred and forty nine pieces of machinery brought from France after the Germans began their 1914 drive.

In Honningen, on the Rhine near the edge of the American zone, three Belgian admiralty officers found a manufacturing plant completely equipped with Belgian machinery. The German manager admitted that he had purchased the machinery through the regular German channels. The manager showed the Belgians where he had stored his own machinery for an emergency in the event of being called upon to produce the apparatus sent back from Belgium after the Germans occupied Belgian territory.

The manufacturing concerns make their reports through the German officials, the Burgomasters and other authorities in the various districts being held responsible by the Americans for complete reports on all property brought to Germany from the allied countries.

Takes \$25,000 More

S. C. Sinking Fund Commission Subscribes Liberally

Columbia, May 3.—The Sinking Fund Commission of South Carolina on Saturday bought an additional \$25,000 of Victory Liberty bonds. "We consider this an excellent investment," said Malcolm J. Hiller, the clerk of the commission. "In fact the commission has bought \$75,000 of this issue alone."

The Sinking Fund Commission of South Carolina is one of the most careful business branches of the State government and its purpose is to invest State money at the best obtainable rate of interest so as to accumulate money with which to buy bonds. The fact that the commission has bought \$75,000 worth is the best boost that the victory bonds can get.

The Boston News Bureau, the great daily financial paper of that city in an editorial by its distinguished editor, C. B. Barron, says: "The victory loan is still approved on all sides as the fairest solution the government has yet made of its financial problems. The short maturity seems to make doubtful a material depreciation in principle and the rate seems close to the market. It ought to be subscribed comfortably."

Orleans, France, May 3.—Three American soldiers were killed and eight injured seriously when an army truck was struck by a train near here today.

FAIR TREATMENT FOR CHINESE

Japan Announces Policy To Be Followed in Dealing With Shantung Question

PROVINCE WILL BE RETURNED TO CHINA

Japan Will Retain Only Economic Privileges Granted Germany.

Paris, May 5.—Japan's policy is to return the Shantung peninsula in full sovereignty to China, retaining only the economic privileges granted Germany and the right to establish a settlement under the usual conditions at Tsingtao. Baron Makino, head of the Japanese delegation to the peace conference declared in a statement today.

FURTHER FACTS ABOUT TREATY

Document Will Be Handed Germans Thursday Afternoon by Premier Clemenceau

OUTLINE OF LAST CHAPTERS

Seventh Chapter Deals With the Responsibilities of Former Emperor and Other Officials For the War.

Paris, May 5.—It is now certain, according to the French press, that the peace treaty will be handed to the German foreign minister by Premier Clemenceau at Versailles Thursday afternoon. The contents of the first five chapters of the treaty have already been outlined, dealing with the preamble, German frontiers, territory changes, German colonies, and military, naval and aerial features of the pact.

The sixth will define the status of prisoners of war, the seventh, the responsibilities of the former emperor and other Germans for the war, the eighth and ninth, reparations, problems and financial clauses. The tenth economic clauses, the eleventh, ports, railroads and water communication, the twelfth, international labor legislation; the thirteenth, guarantees; the fourteenth, general clauses dealing with ratification.

Belgians Ask Terms

Not Satisfied With Preliminary Pact

Paris, May 2 (By the Associated Press).—The Belgian delegation to the peace conference is expressing dissatisfaction over the terms of the preliminaries for peace as they affect Belgium. None of the territorial claims of Belgium has been granted, except that of Malmédy, in Rhénish Prussia, a short distance south of Aix La Chapelle, the population of which before the war was largely Walloon. Malmédy will revert to Belgium. The territory on the left bank of the Scheldt river and Maastricht and the Limburg peninsula are not mentioned in the terms.

Of the \$500,000,000 already mentioned as an immediate financial indemnity for Belgium, more than half the amount has merely been placed to Belgium's credit in allied countries as part payment of war loans. No provision has been made for the recall by Germany of the 16 billion marks which are left in Belgium and now are lying in Belgian banks and vaults bearing no interest and unproductive as the circulation of the mark in Belgium is not permitted.

"The amount of 6,000,000 marks represents virtually the total Belgian liquid wealth assets" said a member of the Belgian delegation today.

M. Delcroix, the Belgian premier, arrived in Paris this morning bringing a message of protest from the Belgian senate. He conferred with M. Hymans of the Belgian peace delegation who is expected to appear before the council of three to make representations concerning the terms granted Belgium.

81st Ordered Home

More Southern Troops Designated for Transport

Washington, May 5.—Gen. Pershing informed the war department today that the 81st division, which includes North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida troops had been ordered to prepare to return home. No sailing date has been fixed.

FIRE DAMAGES NAVAL SEAPLANE

Electric Spark Starts Fire That Partly Destroyed Trans-Atlantic Flyers

ONE PLANE WILL START TO-MORROW

Other Two May Be Repaired in Time to Get Off at Same Time.

New York, May 5.—Fire at the air station at Rockaway Beach today damaged the naval seaplanes, NC-1 and NC-4 which were expected to start tomorrow on the first leg of the trans-Atlantic flight. The blaze, which Commander Towers, who is in charge of the expedition, declared to be accidental, started from an electrical spark, which ignited the gasoline on the NC-1. The wings of NC-1 were destroyed, but it is believed the NC-4 can be repaired in time for the start. Commander Towers announced that the start for Newfoundland where the trans-Atlantic flight is scheduled to begin, would be made tomorrow, the weather permitting, with NC-3, very likely NC-4, and possibly NC-1.

New York, N. Y., May 4.—The three big seaplanes in which United States navy aviators will attempt a flight across the Atlantic will "hop off" for Newfoundland on the first leg of their journey at seven o'clock Tuesday morning if weather permits, it was officially announced at the Rockaway Beach naval training station tonight.

The first stop on the flight to Newfoundland is scheduled for Halifax, N. S., 540 nautical miles from Rockaway Beach. The fliers expect to reach Halifax by three o'clock Tuesday afternoon. After lying there overnight they will fly early Wednesday morning to Trepassey, the Newfoundland base of the flight expedition.

At Trepassey the big planes will tune up for their across-the-ocean attempt, probably remaining in Trepassey Bay for ten days—"may be less or may be a little longer" the announcement by Commander John H. Towers, expedition leader said.

There will be no ceremonies or "fuss" when the time arrives Tuesday morning for the "hop off" at Rockaway. The public will be excluded from the area adjacent to the planes' mooring and a "strictly business" get away will be made.

The planes will travel about 63 knots an hour, which was said to be "comfortable cruising speed." At the start the American flag will flutter at the tail of each plane, and the American jack at the front, but these will be taken in immediately after the "hop off" as they would be whipped to shreds by the rushing wind.

"Our three entries are all ready to go except that the NC-1 and the NC-4 will be given further tests tomorrow" said Commander Towers.

"The NC-3 is entirely ready. Each of the machines will carry 24,000 pounds from Rockaway when we start. We will get what fuel we need at Halifax as ships have already dropped gasoline there."

"We shall carry five gallons of drinking water on each plane, in addition to twenty gallons for the raiders. The personal effects of each man of the crew will be limited to five pounds, including a tooth brush, comb and brush, a shirt, shaving kit, fresh underclothing and socks. There will be no additional accommodations for even a pocket knife."

"Our trip with the exception of a very short distance will be over on the water. The only time we expect to fly over land is when we go over the southern tip of Cape Cod. We plan to keep in touch with Washington the same as any ship in the navy. We have tested our instruments and they have demonstrated that we shall be able to keep up land communication during the greater part of our trip."

The assignment of the crews to the three planes will be definitely announced tomorrow. Commander Towers said. Although there will be no change in the personnel announced several days ago, Commander Towers said he was not yet able to state which crew would go on which plane.

The NC-1, was given two test flights this afternoon taking eleven passengers on the first flight and twelve on the second. Officers said the flights were "most satisfactory."

Belgium Will Sign

Government Has Decided to Accept Treaty

Brussels, May 5.—The Belgian government has decided to sign the peace treaty which was discussed at the crown council here yesterday, it is announced.

Secret Session Called

Paris, May 4.—A secret plenary session of the peace conference has been called to meet tomorrow afternoon. The session will be held to present the peace treaty to the smaller powers.

DECISION ON CHILD LABOR LAW

Provision in Revenue Act Prohibiting Child Labor Held to be Unconstitutional

OPINION BY FEDERAL JUDGE BOYD

Law Tested as Matter of Principle Says Secretary of Cotton Manufacturers Association.

Greensboro, N. C., May 2.—Federal Judge James E. Boyd today held as unconstitutional the provisions of the Revenue Act intended to prohibit the employment of child labor. Judge Boyd last year held the federal child labor law unconstitutional and his decision was upheld by the United States Supreme Court.

The previous case was brought to test the federal statute which denied the channels of interstate commerce to goods made in factories where child labor was employed. Despite the rallying of well-known constitutional lawyers to the defense of the statute, it was held invalid by Judge Boyd. After the Supreme Court upheld him, Congress wrote a provision into the recent Revenue Act placing a privilege tax of 10 per cent on products of factories employing children under fourteen years of age to any extent, or the employment for longer than eight hours a day of children from fourteen to sixteen years of age.

In making permanent an injunction granted to temporarily stay execution of this law in the Charlotte, N. C., case here today, Judge Boyd said that the federal law tries to accomplish regulation of employment by indirect means under the taxing privilege in this instance, as the previous law attempted it under the interstate commerce powers. Both attempts he holds to be invasion of State rights.

As Matter of Principle.

Charlotte, N. C., May 2.—Winston Adams, secretary of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association, with offices here, tonight authorized the following statement regarding the child labor case decided today by Judge Boyd:

"The manufacturers are contesting this law as a matter of principle rather than merely the working of young people. The manufacturers claim that if this law is held constitutional the precedent has been established whereby the federal government can make and enforce any regulation covering conditions of employment of child labor."

The manufacturers contend that this is a matter for State legislation, rather than regulation by the federal government.

"This case has been appealed and will be carried direct to the Supreme Court of the United States. An effort is being made to secure a hearing at this session."

Without Information.

Washington, May 2.—Officials of the department of justice were without information of the decision of Federal Judge Boyd, at Greensboro, N. C., today, declaring the child labor section of the war revenue law unconstitutional and could not say what the next step in the case would be. It was stated, however, that the decision would not affect operation of the law unless upheld by the Supreme Court. As the case was brought by an employee against a corn mill, the government having no direct part in the proceedings, it was said that the question of an appeal would have to be decided locally at Greensboro.

German Assembly Called

Short Session To Be Held in Berlin to Discuss Treaty

Berlin, May 5.—The German national assembly convenes Thursday at Berlin for a few sessions for the purpose of discussing the peace terms, says a Weimar dispatch to The Tagblatt. The national assembly will resume its sessions at Weimar within two or three weeks, it is added.

Bolsheviks Defeat Rumanians

Town of Szolnok Reported to Have Been Recaptured

London, May 5.—The Hungarian soviet forces have recaptured Szolnok from the Rumanians, according to a Hungarian wireless message.

Finns Take Petrograd

Indefinite Report Indicates That Bolsheviks Have Been Driven Out

Paris, May 3.—Petrograd has probably been taken by the Finns, according to apparently trustworthy information reaching here.